



# Bandelier Youth Stewardship Program



*Read and answer the questions in this booklet to earn the Bandelier Steward patch and learn how to be a steward of our National Parks.*

## **What is stewardship?**

Stewardship is the careful and responsible management of our precious places. The National Park Service and American people are stewards of over 390 such places in the United States.

## **What is Bandelier?**

Within the boundaries of Bandelier National Monument are 33,000 acres of wilderness, archeological sites, campgrounds and public access areas. All visitors should join the effort to keep these national treasures in pristine condition and be good stewards of the heritage that is ours, preserving it for this and future generations.

Bandelier is the ancestral home of Native Americans, who live today in pueblos along the Rio Grande. Today's Pueblo people hold this place and their ancestors who lived here in deep respect. For them, it is a sacred place.

## **How does this booklet work?**

1. Read the information and directions in this booklet, as you walk the Main Loop Trail.
2. Complete the booklet's activities.
3. When finished, give the booklet to your group's leader. He or she will read what you have written and judge whether you have earned the Bandelier stewardship patch.
4. When your group has completed its booklets, your leader can request free Bandelier Steward patches (pictured on the cover).

**Marker #4: Big Kiva**

Walk to marker 4. This structure is a kiva. Kivas were (and still are today) used for ceremonial purposes as well as decision making and education.

Thousands of visitors observe this kiva each year. What threats might they post to this structure?

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**Markers #6, 7, 8: Tyounyi**

Walk to markers 6,7, 8 and the village of Tyounyi (Qu Weh Nee). The ancestors of the present people of Cochiti constructed this village in the 1400s. Archeologists and the Civilian Conservation Corps excavated this site in 1910, 1913 and the 1930s.

Loose bricks and other debris were removed from each room. Bricks that were still attached to one and other (the lower part of the original walls) were left as they were found and modern cement mortar was used to stabilize the structure.

Think about the archeologists who studied this site. As they thought about what they saw, what questions might they have asked concerning it?

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**Marker #11: Cavates**

Continue on the trail. Climb the stairs to marker 11. Three cavates (hand-carved rooms on the cliff face) have been stabilized with concrete floors and ladders so you can access them. Enter only those cavates with ladders.

Why do you think only three cavates were stabilized for public access?

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**Marker #13: Cave Kiva**

This is one of the largest cavates of the over 1,000 on the north wall of this canyon. Evidence within the cavate suggests it was used as a kiva. The lower half of the wall has been plastered while the upper half has been smoked just as it was by the Ancestral Pueblo people 450 years ago.

Most visitors respect the fact that these sites are sacred to the modern Pueblo people. But graffiti defaces this site and shows disrespect for the Pueblo people. The park’s Vanishing Treasures crew periodically closes the cavates to remove the graffiti and maintain the cavate in as original condition as possible (see photos on page 8).

If you entered a cavate and found someone scratching graffiti in the ceiling, what would you do?

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# Marker #20: Long House

Continue to Long House and marker 20. Above the rows of holes, used to support roof beams, are a number of petroglyphs - drawings carved into the rock of the canyon wall.

These petroglyphs are subject to wind, frost, rain and erosion. They are slowly vanishing from this landscape.

Find four petroglyphs and draw them in the box below. Write in your ideas about what they might represent.

How might the park preserve these petroglyphs for future generations to enjoy?

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## Two Ways to Continue

Continue walking past Long House.

**If you have time for another hour of walking**, cross the stream and turn right to go to Alcove House (an alcove set into the canyon wall, 140 feet above the canyon floor). You do not have to visit Alcove House to complete this program.

**To return directly to the Visitor Center**, cross the stream and turn left.

## Walking to Alcove House or the Visitor Center

As you walk this trail, pay attention to the variety of living things here. There are more than 900 species of plants, 60 species of mammals, 35 different reptiles and amphibians and 175 different kinds of birds. The park's Resource Management division is responsible for maintaining the delicate balance nature has provided.



Abert's Squirrel



Rattlesnakes



Ponderosa Pine

**Optional Stop: At Alcove House**

When you reach Alcove House, you will need to climb 4 ladders, plus stairs, to reach the site. The alcove is 140 feet above the floor of the canyon. It is 80 feet wide, 40 feet high and 60 feet deep. A small group of canyon residents live here and built 23 rooms and a small kiva in the alcove. You may enter the kiva - but remember that this site is sacred and requires your respect.

**Final Question: Being a Steward in Your Community**

Think of a national, state or city park or other special place near your home. Describe a threat it faces and a project you, as a steward, could undertake to help your park’s problem.

Name of Park: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Project I Could Do to Help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Work or Volunteer at a National Park

Have you thought that someday you might want to be a part of the National Park Service?

**Volunteer** - Visit <http://www.nps.gov/getinvolved> to find volunteer opportunities at your national park. Consider working with your local park on large service projects, such as Eagle Scout projects.

**Internships** - Gain valuable work experience while you're still in school...and get paid for it! Learn more about internship programs with the Park Service at <http://www.nps.gov/gettinginvolved/internships>.

**Student Conversation Association** - intern as a park guide or field researcher at a National Park. To do this you should be at least 17 and getting you high school diploma or GED. For more information, visit <http://www.thesca.org>.

## Park service employees are...

park guides  
carpenters  
archaeologists  
EMTs lawyers  
firefighters  
ecologists  
custodians  
biologists  
accountants  
museum  
curators pilots  
botanists law  
enforcement  
officers graphic  
designers

*Done with this booklet? Give it to your group's leader. He or she can request a free Bandelier Steward Patch for you from the Visitor Center information desk.*



Graffiti in a Civate



Graffiti Mitigation in Process